

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

PLEASE AMEND CLAIM 25:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled)
4. (Canceled)
5. (Canceled)
6. (Canceled)
7. (Canceled)
8. (Canceled)
9. (Canceled)
10. (Canceled)
11. (Canceled)
12. (Canceled)
13. (Thrice Amended) A handpiece used with flexible shaft assemblies, the handpiece comprises: a shrouded wall having a first end and second end which is adapted to receive the flexible shaft assembly, and the shrouded wall has a generally cylindrical shape; a chuck assembly which is rotatably connected to the interior of the first end of the shrouded wall portion and protudes out of the shrouded wall so that the jaws of the chuck are able to receive a bit, a first portion of the shrouded wall located at the first end has a diameter in the range of about 25.5 mm to about 27.0 mm; and a second portion of the shrouded wall located between the first end and the second end includes a plurality of

grooves or ridges and has a diameter in the range of about 25.2 mm to about 25.6 mm; and the chuck has an effective capacity up to 6.35 mm and the diameter of the second portion is less than the diameter of the first portion.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Amended) A handpiece used with flexible shaft assemblies, the handpiece comprises:

a shrouded wall having a first end and a second end which is adapted to receive the flexible shaft assembly;

a chuck assembly, wherein the chuck has an effective capacity up to 6.35 mm, which is rotatably connected to the interior of the first end of the shrouded wall portion so that the jaws of the chuck are able to receive a bit,

a first portion of the shrouded wall located at the first end has a diameter in the range of about 25.5 mm to above; and

a second portion of the shrouded wall located between the first end and the second end having a diameter in the range of about 25.2 mm to about 25.6 mm; and

wherein the diameter of the second portion is less than the diameter of the first portion.

21. (Amended) The handpiece as claimed in claim 20, wherein the length of the first portion is in the range of 35 mm to 45 mm.
22. (Amended) The handpiece as claimed in claim 20, wherein the length of the first portion is 40 mm.
23. (Amended) The handpiece as claimed in claim 20, wherein the diameter of the first portion is 26 mm.
24. (Amended) The handpiece as claimed in claim 20, wherein the thickness of the shrouded wall is in the range of 0.7 mm to 1.2 mm.
25. (Twice Amended) The handpiece as claimed in claim [1] 20, wherein the thickness of the shrouded wall is 0.7 mm-0.8 mm.
26. (Previously Presented) The handpiece as claimed in claim 20, wherein a second portion of the shrouded wall located between the first end and the second end includes a plurality of grooves or ridges.
27. (Amended) The handpiece as claimed in claim 26, wherein a second portion has a length in the range of 40 mm to about 85 mm.
28. (Amended) The handpiece as claimed in claim 26, wherein the second portion has a length of 62 mm.
29. (Amended) The handpiece as claimed in claim 26, wherein the second portion has a diameter of 25.4 mm.
30. (Previously Presented) The handpiece as claimed in claim 20, wherein the chuck includes a plurality of jaws which are able to secure a bit.